



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**For Information Contact:**

Kristine Heine, Global Communicators:  
202-371-9600

[kheine@globalcommunicators.com](mailto:kheine@globalcommunicators.com) or

Steve Drake: 301-680-0585

[sdrake@verizon.net](mailto:sdrake@verizon.net)

**YES 2009 HOPES FOR ENCOURAGEMENT FROM PRESIDENT OBAMA**  
***Inaugural Youth Engagement Summit, Taking Place While President is in Region,***  
***Will Reflect Aspirations of Millions of Young Southeast Asians***

**Kuala Lumpur** (November 12, 2009) – As U.S. President Barack Obama heads here for an important visit to Southeast Asia, he will travel to a region where more than 560,000 young people already have endorsed his vision for positive social change via an online survey, and thousands more are expected to participate in the inaugural Youth Engagement Summit (YES 2009) November 16 and 17, 2009, at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre (PICC) in Kuala Lumpur ([www.yes2009.asia](http://www.yes2009.asia)).

Obama is scheduled to participate in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meetings in Singapore on November 14 and 15 before visiting China, and organizers of YES 2009 hope the president will find a way to acknowledge and greet the hundreds of thousands of his supporters, aged 15 to 35, from Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines, Brunei, Vietnam Singapore and Malaysia, who will be gathered to take part in YES 2009 in nearby Kuala Lumpur.

"President Obama has a wonderful opportunity to touch the lives of so many young Southeast Asians, including millions of young Muslims, who say his push for change has inspired them," Mr. Singh said. "We all hope to hear from the president while he is in the region."

Singh said a complete report on the opinions and perspectives of YES 2009's online followers, together with a review of the event proceedings, will be released as the Southeast Asia for Change (SEACHANGE) Youth Report (<http://yes2009.asia/seaforchange.html>) during next week's event, which will be witnessed by 6,000 in the Kuala Lumpur venue and another 150,000 assembled before giant screens being erected at major universities in Jakarta, Bangkok, Manila, Ho Chi Min City and Manila.

The landmark, two-day event, which will kick off with an opening address by Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak, will feature a superb line-up of speakers from entertainment, business, and government, including Live Aid Founder Sir Bob Geldof; world chess legend Garry Kasparov; Biz Stone, co-founder of Twitter; Nando Parrado, whose miraculous survival of a plane crash in the Andes became the basis for the critically acclaimed movie *Alive*; and Malaysia's Tony Fernandes, who pioneered Asia's low-cost airline phenomenon by founding AirAsia and AirAsia X.

For more information on YES 2009, to view video comments from participants and supporters, and to read blogs about change from young Southeast Asians, visit [www.yes2009.asia](http://www.yes2009.asia).

This material is distributed by Global Communicators, LLC, on behalf of Sledgehammer Communications.  
Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

5817  
MALAYSIA

NSD/CES/REGISTRATION  
UNIT  
2009 NOV 29 AM 10:05